

New York Tribune.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 13, 1914.

Owned and published daily by The Tribune Association, 6 New York corporation. Oden M. Reid, President; O. Vernon Rogers, Secretary and Treasurer. Address Tribune Building, No. 184 Nassau st., New York.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES.—By Mail, Postage Paid, outside of Greater New York: Daily and Sunday, 1 mo., \$1.00; 3 months, \$2.50; 6 months, \$4.50; 1 year, \$8.00. Daily only, 1 year, \$6.00. Sunday only, 1 year, \$2.00.

FOREIGN RATES.—By Mail, Postage Paid, outside of Greater New York: DAILY AND SUNDAY, 1 mo., \$1.50; 3 months, \$3.50; 6 months, \$6.00; 1 year, \$10.00. DAILY ONLY, 1 year, \$7.00. SUNDAY ONLY, 1 year, \$2.50.

Entered at the Postoffice at New York as Second Class Mail Matter. The Tribune uses its best endeavors to insure the truthfulness of every advertisement it prints and to avoid the publication of all advertisements containing misleading statements or claims.

Making Waste Paper of the Hague Rules of War.

The European nations went into the present war with modernized rules of war to which they had all subscribed in one of The Hague treaties, signed on October 18, 1907. The rules of war are designed largely to restrain armies operating in hostile territory and to protect non-combatants exposed to the perils of actual fighting and the rigors of military occupation.

We know very little about the conduct of the Russian armies in East Prussia and Galicia. Violations of the rules of war may have occurred there. But of Germany's offenses in Belgium and France against the spirit and letter of The Hague treaty we know a great deal. German indifference to the rights of belligerents and of non-combatants is attested by a constantly increasing mass of evidence.

The German aeroplane attacks on Paris are not denied in Berlin. When Paris was threatened with a siege and the German advance was almost in sight of the city's outer fortifications there might have been some color of an excuse for these bombardments. It might have been argued that the German bomb throwers were trying to hamper the movement of French troops or to destroy bridges, forts and supply depots in actual military use by the enemy.

But to drop bombs on a city seventy miles from the nearest battle line, with no other result than to destroy private property and kill women and children and other non-combatants, is not to carry on civilized warfare. It is a clear violation of the guarantees given to non-combatants. It slays the innocent without cause, and in so far as it wantonly destroys private property without any military justification is as explicitly condemned by The Hague convention as pillage is.

In a protest from the French government recently filed with our State Department the charge is made that on August 11, 12 and 14 the Germans bombarded the unfortified and undefended city of Pont-a-Mousson. That bombardment, it is alleged, broke the laws of war in three respects—First, in that the city was unfortified and undefended; second, in that no notice was given, and, third, in that the German fire was directed at the city hospital, which flew the Red Cross flag and was also an historic monument.

The partial destruction of the Rheims Cathedral showed how indifferent the Germans are to the protection which the rules of war seek to throw about historic monuments and buildings dedicated to religion and art. The world was outraged by the vandalism practiced at Rheims, yet that piece of vandalism, committed in the actual area of hostilities, was nothing like as flagrant as the dropping of a bomb last Sunday on Notre Dame Cathedral in Paris, when the nearest point of contact between armed forces was seventy miles away to the northward.

"The New York Times" on Sunday contained a photograph of a war scene in Belgium in which German troops were standing guard over Belgian captives, required to dig rifle pits before Antwerp. If this photograph is genuine it is evidence of another violation of the rules of war. Article VI of the international code says in regard to the labor imposed on prisoners: "The tasks shall not be excessive and shall have no connection with the operations of war." A hostile civilian population is also protected by Article LIII, which says in regard to requisitions in kind and services demanded by an invading force: "They shall be in proportion to the resources of the country and of such a nature as not to involve the inhabitants in the obligation of taking part in military operations against their own country."

In an issue of the "Hamburger Fremdenblatt" of about a month back reference was made in an article on one of the prison camps in Westphalia to the employment of the prisoners there on "earth works." If these earthworks were of a military character the laws of war were violated in making prisoners construct them.

Furthermore, the excessive cash levies made on Brussels and Liège were not justified by the international code. An army occupying conquered territory is permitted to collect taxes for the maintenance of the civil government. But it must collect them in accordance with the rules of assessment and incidence in force, and is bound to defray out of them the expenses of the administration of the occupied territory. Of further levies Article XLIX says: "If in addition to the taxes mentioned in the above article the occupant levies other money contributions in the occupied territory, they shall only be for the needs of the army or of the administration of the territory in question."

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Brussels was asked to pay \$40,000,000 in cash—a most unreasonable assessment for the immediate needs of the occupying army. It is reported from Amsterdam that Antwerp is now to be required to pay \$100,000,000—a still more outrageous penalty. Collecting amounts as crushing as these is only substituting governmental for old-fashioned private pillage.

The Kaiser treated the treaty guaranteeing Belgium's neutrality and independence, of which Prussia was a signatory, as a mere "scrap of paper." Is he going to prosecute this war to an end on the theory that Germany's adhesion to the modernized rules of war is also not worth the parchment it was written on? Civilization's progress is slow and in no field slower than in the smothering of the savageries of war. But the code of 1907 was an advance on all previous codes and was therefore a signal gain for humanity. Is Germany willing to take the lead in neutralizing that gain and dragging war back to the levels of medieval barbarity?

If so, it will become all the more the world's first concern after this war ends to stamp out for good and all the sort of militarism which Germany represents and which she has applied with so much ruthlessness in France and Belgium.

Why Ring in the War?

William Harmon Black, chairman of Tammany's general committee, argues that the war ought to elect Governor Glynn. It would be folly, he thinks, to substitute for Governor Glynn a man without administrative experience in these troublous times, when business is so disturbed. It is a novel idea that Europe's war should decide New York State's election. It proves Mr. Black's zeal for the Glynn cause rather than the high quality of his logic.

The fight against Tammany is far more vital to business men and all other citizens of this state than the fighting in the battle of the Aisne. A defeat of Tammany means thousands on thousands of dollars saved in the abolishment of useless jobs and wasteful business methods. It means a cessation of Tammany's grab and graft. Mr. Black's attempt to ring in the war as a campaign issue is interesting but foolish. It is as ingenious as his "stature of purity" in the 1909 campaign—and as futile.

"Some Game."

As weariness overtakes the general public and the sport of fans shows some preliminary signs of joining the sport of kings, along comes a game, a snootcher of a game, like yesterday's. After that, who cares? Sport or no sport, hirelings or heroes, such things are the business of great minds, and let who will find time to carp and criticize. "Some game!" remarked our own John Massfield on another day. And from him we take the only comment which rises to the great occasion and sits upon the historic findings without intrusion. "Some game!" Homer or a thousand office boys could do no more.

No Secrecy for Public Business.

The welfare committee of the Citizens Union, having had difficulty in obtaining department information about appropriations and the making of the budget, appeals to Mayor Mitchell for greater cooperation between department heads and social and civic organizations. Such an appeal should not be necessary, especially in an administration with the aims which inspire the Mitchell administration.

In municipal affairs in general, and budget making particularly, it is difficult to get the public interested. That is one of the great troubles. Knowledge that the routine of department business will cover graft here and there and much inefficiency, because nobody outside officialdom takes any interest in such matters, encourages official incompetency and official dishonesty. Publicly discourages waste and graft and brings suggestions, information and co-operation to department heads. There has been so general a desire to have favorable publicity on the part of the Mitchell administration that it is surprising to find any desire to avoid giving information to any civic organization seeking to help in bettering municipal affairs. The Mayor should see to it that no cause for such complaints exists in future.

The Heavy Loss of British Officers.

The detailed figures of casualties among British officers confirm the earlier reports that they had suffered a severe and disproportionate loss. Out of 6,000 supposedly engaged, 1,146 are dead, wounded or missing. In certain of the regiments—the Coldstream Guards, the Gordon Highlanders and the Irish Guards—the loss has exceeded 50 per cent.

As for the cause, it seems likely that the British uniform still differentiates too markedly the officer from his men. As a result of the South African war the whole question of field uniforms was reconsidered and the present drab outfit chosen. Also conspicuous marks of rank were removed. Yet, according to the dispatches, German marksmen with field glasses have no difficulty in singling out officers. The sword, the belt, even the cut and color of the breeches are said to be noticeable. Our own army has gone far in this leveling of ranks to the eye; the sword is succeeded by an automatic; even in quality of cloth and insignificant marks, the uniforms are identical. It will be an important lesson of the war to determine whether additional measures need to be taken to prevent the picking off of officers by sharpshooters. In their effect upon the British these heavy losses will add considerably to the problem of turning out fresh armies. If it takes months to make a good soldier, it takes years to make a good officer. The wholesale promotion of non-commissioned officers seems the solution which will be forced upon Lord Kitchener by the terrible "flood of honor" now harrowing England.

The Conning Tower

TO ADVERTISERS. The Tribune's types are true and tried. And clear and manifold. This is our 10-point Cheltenham Wide. This 10-point Caslon Bold.

It should be gratifying to Mr. Samuel Hopkins Adams to read the newspaper reviews of his new book, "The Clarion." This book tells of a newspaper owned by the son of a fake-medicine proprietor; it shows some of the horribly crooked things about fake-medicines and some of the bad things about newspapers. Also, some of the fine and inspiring things about newspapers.

But most of the reviews call it overdrawn and untrue, which it is not. It is not a fascinating piece of fiction; and as a story it is without charm in the manner of telling. But it is true, and sincere, and honest. Newspapers—not all, but many of them—do suppress and distort news; and the policies of some newspapers are determined by the advertisers and the business office.

We have heard—and not from Mr. Adams either—that it is impossible to buy a copy of the book in one city, whose large newspaper is owned by a patent medicine concern. The bookdealers, we are informed, are afraid to handle it, fearing boycott by the town's most influential family. Being another thing that should gratify Mr. Adams, who, whatever his skill and charm as a fictionist may or may not be, has done more, through his fake-food and quack-medicine articles, for the health of these United States than anybody else we can think of offhand.

ENTERED BY SAMUEL MERWIN, FOR THE ANTI-CLIMAX CUP. (From the Sun.) Mrs. Lee says, the girl, "wipped his face, kicked him in the stomach and afterward refused to attend his church."

The Bayonne "Advance Sheet," Isaacles thinks, makes a bid for the cup with its declaration of purpose: "Published in the interest of Religious and Political Advancement and Orthographical Reform."

For first v.p. of the Fusslers' Verein—S. L. C. is nominating—the man who puts mud on the back of a stamp because he is skeptical of the government quality.

THE DIARY OF OUR OWN SAMUEL PEPPYS.

October 10.—Up very betimes, having had little sleep, for the fire-bells did clang so loudly and the flames make my room so bright that I was greatly disturbed. One of the great buildings at King's College was burned, I hear. To Philadelphia again, where I did meet C. Matthews, the scrivener, and he said, Is this Mr. Samuel Peppys, and I said, Yes, and he said how that he hath heard and read of me already. Why, as to that, quoth I, neither are you a stranger to me, for I remember seeing your name in the public prints to some connexion or other. A fine-seeming gentleman he is, and hath the clearest blue eye over I saw. To dinner with my wife at an inn, and thence home by steamtrain. And on my journey I did read a piece of S. Strunsky's, which caused me, for the first time, to doubt his judgment. But, as Mr. Shaw hath it, what am I against so many?

11.—To the ballpark, and saw a game between the Illustrators and the Dutch Treat Clubs, and who won I could not tell, but W. Trumbull and E. Steele played the best, methought, but Grantland Rice the poet did worse than even I might have done. All afternoon riding upon my velocipede, and having the pleasantest time I have had in a twelvemonth.

12.—Up, and upon my velocipede to the city, and riding along in high spirits, too, when I did find a great piece of glass had destroyed one of my tyres, which I liked me greatly. So I did leave my velocipede at a shop, but the day was spoiled for me; and when I essayed to play at tennis I had no skill soever, and even Will Beebe did trounce me.

In the fire up at Columbia Saturday morning, the copy for the Columbia Jester's special edition of The Conning Tower was destroyed. The dunceless contrivance, however, have written another column, which will be run to-morrow, or some other time before November 1.

IT MUST BE A REAL NICE PLACE.

(From the Mantou, Colorado, Board of Trade.) Enchanting, far-famed Mantou! Spot of beauty whose fame is sung 'round the world! Favored valley from whose generous heart will life-giving waters, the most magnificent blessing of the bounteous Giver of all good! Mecca of the health- and pleasure-seeker from every country and every clime! Springs of rejuvenating refreshment whose fame reached the Far East and hurried the adventurous Spaniard on his quest for the Fountain of Youth!

Mantou! The very name has a charm and a meaning all its own. Small wonder that the fever-stricken Indian, returning faint and war-torn from a foray against some fierce tribe of the plains, safe in this sequestered valley cooled by the breezes from mountain snows, flung himself, weak spent and almost unto death, upon the soothing earth beneath the shade of the towering trees, and drinking deep of the revivifying waters, murmured the name of his Great Spirit—"Mantou!"

Last week the new Montclair High School was dedicated and the Board of Education of Montclair wrote a letter, which was sealed in the corner-stone. The letter is addressed, cynically, "To Whomsoever Opens this Box."

The Special Newspaper Party Abroad.

(Margaret E. Tierney in the Lawrence Telegram.) To remain in Holland we had to plan while "Maxy" went back to Amsterdam. For tickets for the Hook and ask Cook's advice of what to do in such times of vice. He escaped the German officer by a hair. Looking for Germans in the hotel there. The "Peach Palace" we intended to visit. Was closed and mourning was on it. But the "House in the Bush" we saw. While the elements without were raging war. Also the fashionable Shevington. And back before another shower could begin. All next day we wandered around the Hague. But bought nothing in view of the "no money" plague. Could our friends see us "hold" a few cents. They'd wonder why to Europe we went. For a picture show we borrowed the money. Understood not the words but the pictures were funny.

JUST GETTING INTO IT.

The first spoofer may have been Richard Craslow, in his "Epigrams": "Thou cheat'st us, Ford; mak'st one seem two by art." The breaks of the game are with the Braves' machine. The breaks are on the Athletics. F. P. A.



THE PEOPLE'S COLUMN An Open Forum for Public Debate.

PEACE, THOUGH WE FIGHT FOR IT

The Fool That Blows His Trumpet Before He Takes Up the Sword. To the Editor of The Tribune. Sir: I was amused at reading the letter in The People's Column of the 9th issue which you have entitled "Peace, Though We Fight for It," and several questions have occurred to me which I should like to ask the writer.

First, He who is so anxious to fight and "take all arms away from all warring nations or die in the attempt," will he enlist and fight to carry out his own plan, or does he want some other one to do the fighting?

Second, With what forces shall the United States start a war to regulate the world and other nations? We have now a regular mobile army of 35,000 available in the United States. Shall all of these be sent away from this country, leaving nothing behind except the national "guard"? Is so, of what importance would 35,000 be compared with the millions engaged on the other side, and what about leaving the country defenseless?

Third, Does he advocate raising an adequate army of, say, 500,000 men? How long does he think it will take to raise and make such a force efficient? Certainly not less than a year, even if we could equip that number with our present facilities. Or does he think that an untrained mob of a million men flying to the colors with all the fine trappings of patriotism would be efficient against the six million trained German soldiers, or the four million French, the eight million Russians, to say nothing of the Austrians, British, Turks, Bulgarians, Serbians and other nations trained and ready? It is a fact, though little appreciated by "our peace-at-any-price" compromisers, that the larger the mass of untrained troops the more inefficient, helpless and likely to disaster they are.

Some time ago a gentleman said to me: "Why, if a foreign force should land upon our shores, six million patriots would immediately fly to arms, trained and ready to fight." Mr. Editor, the thought of those six million patriots flying to arms would be comic if it were not so tragic. They would be just about equal to handling brooms or sweeping purposes, but certainly not for handling modern rifles without suitable training. What would such a force be armed with? We have not even weapons ready. What would they be supplied with? We have not the transportation nor quartermaster's supplies. What would they be uniformed with and housed in? We have neither uniforms nor tents for such a mob, nor a way of handling brooms. Moreover, if as civilians they "sprang to arms," as our forefathers did at Lexington, they would, according to the German rule, be considered "franc-tireurs," "snipers," "bushwhackers," guerrillas, and their fate would be as we have seen in Belgium—a firing squad and a stone wall!

Our regular army should be enlarged and organized, so that this country will be able to defend and enforce the "scraps of paper" to which it has put its name and to back its moral force with physical force should it become necessary. What could our pitiful little 35,000 army (than which, man for man, there is none better) have done had Belgium's fate been ours?

There is an old legend of a man who entered a great room in an old castle, around the walls of which were motionless figures of men in armor, and on the table in the center of the room lay a sheathed sword and a trumpet. The man advanced to the table and blew a resounding blast upon the trumpet, when suddenly the armored figures sprang to life and threw him lifeless out of the room, while a voice proclaimed: "Fool, that bloweth the trumpet before he taketh up the sword!"

JOHN W. LOVELAND. Major 5th New Jersey Infantry. New York, Oct. 7, 1914.

Perfidy, Murder and Blasphemy.

To the Editor of The Tribune. Sir: Isn't it glorious for our country that while we are sending gifts to the orphans of Germany and Austria we are sending their enemies enough material to kill a million more fathers? Isn't this in keeping with our "peace prayers"? Not only perfidy and murder, but blasphemy, I call it! New York, Oct. 8, 1914. H. B.

THE WAYS OF BARBARISM

German Women and the War, with Some Words of Comparison. To the Editor of The Tribune. Sir: As soon as war broke out the English ladies unanimously agreed that they would not wear mourning for their men folk killed in battle, but instead, would wear white ribbons on their sleeves.

The French ladies outdid the English in patriotism. They decided to adopt the uniform style of wearing a small tricolor rosette, over black, pinned to their corsage. The German barbarian women, with their characteristic lack of refinement, gave not a thought as to what was mourning style to adopt, but all agreed to sell their jewelry in order to care for the poor. Jewelry to the value of 1,000,000 marks was thus obtained, amounting to being 8,000 wedding rings from the province of Posen alone. Women better off decided to omit all luxuries and delicacies from their tables, serving the plainest food, and devoting the money spent for luxuries to the care of the needy. What can one expect from barbarians! HARRIET SCHRAMM. New York, Oct. 10, 1914.

DISHONOR TO AN UNWORTHY FOE

Such is the Reply to a Critic of Jerome K. Jerome. To the Editor of The Tribune. Sir: Any one who has the pleasure of the personal acquaintance of Mr. Jerome K. Jerome, as I have had for a number of years, knows that he is incapable of either "sneering" or "foolish arrogance," or that he can be rightfully termed in any way an unfair opponent.

To the supercilious Mr. Slesco, and many like him, I cordially commend the concluding sentence of your able and compelling editorial in to-day's issue, wherein you state: "The invasion of friendly, treaty-protected Belgium is, in the opinion of all fair-minded men, a crime against international morality and against civilization. It is a crime which will take Germany generations to live down."

Where were the "tremendous odds" when the Kaiser, that arch type of modern "kultur," began the tramp of his "heroic," vastly outnumbering, invincible, inviolable, invulnerable, prosperous and contented nation, such as Belgium was? All the recurrent, feebly attempted defenses of war lords will never remove that baneful blot from the sullied pages of Germany's history. Louvain, Rheims, Brussels and Antwerp will be remembered the world over and until the world's end as the victims of a lawless, lustful and sickening holocaust. CHARLES P. RIDEAL. New York, Oct. 10, 1914.

From Our Expert Kicker.

To the Editor of The Tribune. Sir: I hope you will not class me as a chronic kicker, but I have been waiting a long time for some one to attack the "Made in America" trademark. There is an awful lot of American goods that is not covered by the United States, and I don't think Uncle Sam is properly preserving his individuality by allowing "Made in America" to be used where "Made in the U. S." would be a more appropriate trademark. For instance, articles made in France or any other foreign country are not branded "Made in Europe." Canada, Mexico and all the other nations of the Western Hemisphere are located in America. There should be no room for doubt as to where an article is made. "Made in the U. S." would sound bigger and say more than any trade-mark that could be adopted. A. P. OSOX. New York, Oct. 9, 1914.

SUPPORTS COTTON POOL PLAN

A Reader Cannot See How It Is "Un-economic" or "Dangerous." To the Editor of The Tribune. Sir: I have read with much interest an article in The Tribune of October 9 giving the views of several prominent New York City bankers on the cotton financing plan promulgated by Festus J. Wade, of St. Louis.

With 2,000,000 bales of cotton, which is used in a myriad ways the world over and is as good as gold everywhere, shut out of Europe temporarily by the war, why is it "un-economic," "antislavery" and even dangerous for a big corporation of level-headed, progressive and patriotic business men and bankers to loan money at 6 per cent to the cotton growers and merchants of the South? Will the world need less cotton following a war which cannot last indefinitely?

All of the countries that are big users of our cotton will scramble for as much of it as they can buy after the war is over, and they will be willing to pay a high price therefor. This being the case, why call 10 cents a pound an artificial price?

When the general use of cotton is rapidly increasing all over the world and when Europe is utterly destroying vast quantities of it in the pursuit of war, thus forever taking the cotton so used out of the channels of peaceful commerce, do these brilliant New York bankers think that money should not be loaned by those who are willing to loan it to the Southern bankers, merchants and planters, who are certainly entitled to make a profit on the cotton crop? Would these big New York bankers be satisfied to see the South meekly throw a big crop of cotton on the present market for whatever price it would bring, say even as little as 6 cents, when it costs 9 cents or more per pound to produce it?

The present attitude of the New York bankers shows a cold indifference that is astonishing. Perhaps the attitude of the Southern bankers toward those who would desert the South now, betraying her while she is in distress, will astonish the New York bankers in turn.

"The scheme is ephemeral," says one banker, who admits, "I do not know all the details, but it is plain enough that the plan is to fix an artificial price for cotton above the price that free supply and demand would establish," etc. Evidently, indeed, Europe is at war and cannot use cotton just now. We have as much cotton for sale as our domestic mills have been using in three years. One-third of our present crop will supply our mills for nearly one year, even with the greatly increased output of cotton manufacturers. It is generally conceded that the war cannot last more than a year.

Could our cotton planters foresee the war? Must they starve because a few kings and kaisers go mad and start a saturnalia of murder and destruction, the very momentum of which is bound to soon free Europe of at least one or two of these autocratic barnacles on the ship of world progress? No, gentlemen, 10 cents is not an artificial price for cotton, but the European war is an artificial condition, or has created an artificial condition which will not last.

Maybe the bankers who think the "South should face the situation squarely, pocketing its loss, meekly that other might profit the more thereby, would like to have the handling of a hefty part of the millions the big hearted and broad visioned bankers of the great middle section of our country are willing to raise for the benefit of the South and themselves. Maybe this New York banker foresees the withdrawal from his institution of some fat deposits of Western bankers for use in the South. To this banker we would say, follow the example of your brother bankers in all of the big cities west of New York; advertise for local deposits.

Many a Southerner and perhaps a few Central Western bankers can doubtless teach the New York bankers a lot about cotton, a lot about the live and let live doctrine, and perhaps a little about patriotism. We wonder if that New York banker could teach the

Western bankers who favor the plan anything about finance.

Mr. Wade, of St. Louis, built up the wonderful institution which he has with the aid of aggressive publicity—not the cold, stereotyped stuff so long used occasionally by the New York banks, but human interest advertising, wisely and consistently used for many years. Let the New York bankers "get wise" to the part of printer's ink and stop criticizing Western and Southern bankers, who know something of the art of building deposits in their own territory.

A. L. ANDREWS. Bayville, Long Island, Oct. 10, 1914.

THE TEACHER AND HER CHILD

Her Duties Give Her Much Time at Home, It is Asserted. To the Editor of The Tribune. Sir: My eye alighted upon an article written by Mrs. Woods, and on reading it through the fact struck me that the "intelligent mother's" mind was capable of understanding anything about the teacher-mother question. One would judge from her letter that a teacher-mother would hardly have a spare time to give to an offspring. Out of the twenty-four hours a teacher spends but six or seven a day at school and out five days of the week. Besides, she has the whole hot summer, when a child needs its mother most, entirely free. This is more than a great many of the working mothers who have every day of the year practically free and are to give to their children.

MARY E. HARRIS. Brooklyn, Oct. 10, 1914.

COLUMBUS AND ISABELLA

What Women Have Done and Are Doing for the World. To the Editor of The Tribune. Sir: The suffragists for Columbus Day have a striking cartoon. Columbus sits pondering ways and means of being remembered. The shadowy figure of Queen Isabella offering her throne to finance his expedition is refused. The other sovereigns had refused the public that Lincoln was the first prominent man in America to open the door for woman suffrage. On the Fourth of July they lay stress on the old war cries, "Governmental give their just money to the owners of the government" and "Taxation without representation is tyranny."

On Thanksgiving Day there have been many a Birthday days suffrage for the public. Birthday days suffrage has been granted to women by Canada, Norway, Washington, Kansas, Arizona, Alaska and Illinois. In other states Ohio, Missouri, Nevada, Kansas, North and South Dakota, Montana—suffrage amendments to the constitutions have been passed, ceaselessly through their legislative assemblies, and will be passed next month by the vote at the polls.

ALICE STONE BLACKWELL. Dorchester, Mass., Oct. 10, 1914.

The New Device of Kultur.

To the Editor of The Tribune. Sir: Max Weber makes an interesting mistake in spelling the name of the new German device, the energy transformer, to the Germans what the energy transformer will be for the English. It will be for the English "telephonograph" it will be for the "phonograph." When we remember that the Emperor is the father of his people, original of the word is obvious. It is not German. Max Weber is evidently betrayed by his own ancestry into a misleading selection. M. D. FOLLEN. New York, Oct. 10, 1914.

The Tribune wishes to reveal to its readers that it is not a mere newspaper, but a public utility, and as an assurance of its good faith, name and address are signed in every issue. There are no advertisements of the writer or representative.